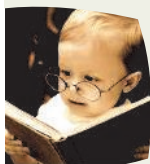




► FIRST FRIDAY BRINGS KIDS
FACE TO FACE WITH
SCIENTIFIC DISCOVERY.....2



► CELEBRATE THE YEAR OF
THE ROOSTER.....2



► REMINDER: CHILDREN ON
BOARD EVENT AT TEN
OAKS.....3

○ ISSUE 28 | ○ VOLUME 7

Community *notes*

Sister Cities Exchanges in France, Spain, Ghana, or Haiti

During [Sister Cities Exchanges](#) this summer, teen participants spend approximately two weeks of cultural and linguistic immersion in this Columbia Association (CA) program. Teens in grades 10-12 have the opportunity to experience France, Spain, or Ghana in Columbia's sister cities in Cergy-Pontoise, Tres Cantos or Tema, as they live with a teen of similar age, then host the same teen here for two weeks. Or they can travel to Columbia's newest sister city, Cap-Haitien (Haiti), for 10 days with the Build Haiti Foundation's Global Leadership Program. Throughout the trip, there are organized group activities for the participants, both abroad and in the U.S. For more information on these opportunities, parents and teens can attend one of the following information sessions:

Cergy-Pontoise, France — Wednesday, Jan. 25
Tres Cantos, Spain — Wednesday, Jan. 25
Tema, Ghana — Thursday, Jan. 26
Cap-Haitien, Haiti — Thursday, Feb. 23 and Thursday, Mar. 30

Information sessions are held at CA Headquarters (6310 Hillside Court, Columbia) from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. The Application Packet is available [online](#). For more information, contact Laura Smit at 410-715-3162 or via [email](#). The deadline to apply is Friday, February 17.



Greetings

There is no such thing as the winter doldrums in our community. Check out a few of the upcoming events that are highlighted in this week's newsletter. Enjoy!

MayKay

Events with the Columbia Orchestra

Chamber Concert—Rescheduled

Sunday, January 29 at 3:00 p.m.
Christ Episcopal Church
6800 Oakland Mills Road
Columbia, MD 21045



Members of the Orchestra perform chamber works including Shostakovich's moving 8th String Quartet, highlights from Schubert's "Death and the Maiden", Dvořák's "American" quartet, and a Mozart string quintet. This concert embodies an excellent chamber music sampler with student-friendly selections. Tickets for adults ages 18 and up are \$5.00 each and are sold only at the door. Admission is free for students.

Dvořák and Ravel

Saturday, February 4 at 7:30 p.m.
The Jim Rouse Theatre
5460 Trumpeter Road
Columbia, MD 21044

The next concert includes Dvořák's 8th Symphony and Ravel's Piano Concerto in G featuring Rachel Franklin. Also on the schedule is Chupshah! Harriet's Drive to Canaan by Morgan State University composer James Lee III. [Tickets](#) range from \$10.00 to \$28.00.

Valentine's Chocolate and Jewelry Show

Visit Historic Oakland (5430 Vantage Point Road, Columbia) on Sunday, February 5 from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. for a special Valentine's showcase. Shop for your loved one or treat yourself with exquisite jewelry, chocolates, spa services, flowers and more. Unique gifts for men and women, and free massages, are available. This [event](#) has free admission, however the Town Center Community Association asks attendees to [register](#) in advance.

News from the MD Science Center

First Friday Fun

On February 3, the Maryland Science Center celebrates [First Friday](#) with discounted admission from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. at 601



Light Street in Baltimore. The \$10.00 admission includes the permanent exhibit halls, planetarium, and IMAX Theater. Members are admitted to First Friday free of charge. IMAX presentations are at 7:00 p.m., Planetarium presentations are at 6:00 p.m., and visitors will

encounter live science during their visit. Please note, the Kids Room, The Shed, and SciLab close at 6:00 p.m. during First Fridays.

Paper Circuits & Pop Up Cards Workshop

Valentine's Day is just around the corner. Show your friends and family how much you care by hand crafting your own Paper Circuit or Pop Up card on Saturday, February 11 at the Maryland Science Center (601 Light Street, Baltimore) from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. In this workshop, participants learn how to make paper circuits using copper tape and electronic components. LEDs and other simple electronics can be added together to create greeting cards that light up and buzz. Participants also learn different ways to engineer a pop up card, which can be combined with paper circuits to create an amazing piece of work to give or keep. Admission is \$15.00 per person. (There is no member discount for the workshop programs.) All supplies and museum admission are included. The workshop is designed for ages 10 and up, and anyone under 16 must participate with an adult. Advance [registration](#) and payment required.



CA's International Book Club

The February book selection for Columbia Association's monthly International Book Club is *Wilde Lake* by Laura Lippman, a former Columbia resident. The next meeting is Wednesday, February 8 at 7:30 p.m. Book discussions are held at CA Headquarters (6310 Hillside Court, Columbia, Room 2002). For more information, visit the [website](#).

Lunar New Year: Year of the Rooster

Saturday, January 28 marks the beginning of Lunar Year 4715, the Year of the Rooster in the Chinese zodiac. The Lunar New Year is celebrated by Chinese, Korean, and Vietnamese communities, and we are proud to celebrate this important holiday in Howard County as well. Howard County Council invites you to enjoy a free celebration of New Year luck and prosperity. On Tuesday, January 31 at 6:00 p.m., the public is welcome to the George Howard Building Banneker Room (3430 Court House Drive, Ellicott City) for cultural performances and ethnic food. RSVP by Friday, January 27 to [Christina Kawata](#).

Baby Sign Language Course

Enjoy fun and easy sign language classes with your baby. This six session course begins on Tuesday, February 7 and runs through Tuesday, March 14. Classes take place at 10:00 a.m. at Historic Oakland (5430 Vantage Point Road, Columbia). Little Hands Signing brings the magic of sign language to you and your child (newborns to eight years old) through age-appropriate stories, songs, activities, and games, along with tips and tricks for caregivers on using signs in everyday activities. Each theme-based class will introduce and reinforce signs from a young child's world. Classes use American Sign Language, and you and your child both benefit from learning another language together. Instructor [Kathy MacMillan](#) is a nationally certified American Sign Language interpreter and a certified member of the Sign2Me® Presenters' Network. Register [online](#) to reserve your seat.



GreenFest Seeks Vendors

Vendor applications are now accepted for Howard County's annual [GreenFest](#), back for its 10th consecutive year on Saturday, April 22, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Howard Community College's Burrill Galleria (10901 Little Patuxent Parkway, Columbia). Last year's event drew more than 2,000 attendees and featured nearly 90 commercial and non-profit vendors with information about how to live a more ecologically-sound lifestyle. While the theme for 2017 is "Earth Day Every Day," GreenFest is open to all vendors and exhibitors that highlight environmentally conscious products, services, activities and opportunities for community involvement. [Apply now](#) to become a vendor and/or a sponsor to showcase your 'green' at this popular event. Each exhibit space includes a 5' table and two chairs. Cost to non-profits is \$25 per space; cost to other entities, including commercial businesses is \$35 per space. Cost includes one table and special mention in the GreenFest brochure and on the website. Preference will be given to local businesses and organizations that promote environmentally-friendly goods and services. For more information, contact [Alan Wilcom](#) with the County's Department of Public Works at 410-313-6433.

Final Weekend! Matisse & Diebenkorn at BMA

This is the final week of the Baltimore Museum of Art's exhibit of works by Henri Matisse and Richard Diebenkorn. Due to high demand, the museum has extended hours; visitors must [reserve their timed tickets](#). Consider viewing this once in a lifetime exhibit of art by renowned 20th Century masters.



Lil' Stars at the Robinson Nature Center

Let your little one discover outer space through views of the stars and planets, stories and song at the Robinson Nature Center (6692 Cedar Lane, Columbia). Lil' Stars is a recurring monthly program which focuses on different themes from the colors of stars, to the stories behind a constellation, to the seasonal changes in the sky. On Saturday, January 28 from 11:00 to 11:30 a.m., children three years and older explore "Shooting Stars." [Preregister](#) to secure your seats. Admission is \$3.00 per person. For more information, please call the Nature Center at 410-313-0400.

Public Works Watershed Meeting

Howard County Public Works hosts a [public meeting](#) to discuss the findings from a comprehensive assessment of the main stem of the county's Patuxent River and the Patapsco River watersheds. Bring your questions and comments to the Roger Carter Community Center (3000 Milltowne Road, Ellicott City) on Thursday, January 26 from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. An RSVP is requested, but not required. To RSVP or for more information about Capital Project D-1148, [email](#) Christine Lowe with the Stormwater Management Division.



Howard Community College Galleries

Howard Community College (HCC) has collaborated with numerous artists and organizations to bring about two unique gallery experiences and two outstanding ways to satisfy artistic curiosity. Now through Sunday, March 19, visit the Rouse Company Foundation Gallery for the Visual Arts Department Faculty Exhibition or check out the Art Department Gallery to see Rachel Borgman's installation, "[For Velazquez](#)." A reception for both exhibits is scheduled for Thursday, February 2 from 5:00 to 7:30 p.m. The Rouse Company Foundation Art Gallery is located in the lobby of the Horowitz Visual and Performing Arts Center and the Art Department Gallery is on the first floor of McCuan Hall, both at HCC. The galleries are dedicated to creating partnerships and collaborations with other departments within the college, as well as other art centers and businesses within the community.

Check out the [calendar](#) for the Horowitz Center for more presentations during the 2016-2017 season.

Upcoming Events

Howard County Restaurant Weeks

January 23 - February 6, 2017

Howard County [Restaurant Weeks](#) is a bi-annual, 15 day celebration of the local culinary scene in Howard County. Featured restaurants include Clyde's of Columbia, The Iron Bridge Wine Co., and Kloby's Smokehouse.

Bike Howard Open House

Saturday, January 28, 3:00—5:00 p.m.

Miller Branch Library

9421 Frederick Road, Ellicott City

Learn about current transportation projects, discuss future projects, and provide feedback to County representatives at the [Bike Howard Open House](#).

Child Care Information Fair: "Children On Board"

Sunday, January 29, 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Ten Oaks Ballroom

5000 Signal Bell Lane, Clarksville, MD 21029

Child care providers get information on services for young children at this [information fair](#). Admission is free; however, attendees are asked to bring a nonperishable food item or unopened pack of diapers to donate to the Howard County Food/Diaper Bank. Flu shots will be offered at the Fair.

Drop-in Art Activities: Let's Play

Saturday, January 28, 11:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.

The Walters Museum

600 North Charles Street, Baltimore, MD 21201

Every weekend, create artful projects related to the collection and special exhibitions. There are monthly themes, so visit often to participate in a different project each weekend. This weekend's theme is [Figurines](#). Explore animals in art from around the world and sculpt a hybrid creature. No registration required—drop in, make things, and take a fantastic work of art home with you.



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